COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABILITY

MEETING DATE: Monday, August 31sh 2026, 2:00-4:00 pm via Zoom

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Michael Schmeltz, Jennifer Sanchez Biederman, Sharon Radcliff, Asha Rao, Ying Guo
Not Present: Juleen Lam, Patty Oikawa
Guests: Mark Robinson

Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State East Bay_Public

Short Version: Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State University East Bay …

1. Rotating secretary sign-up

   Members asked about using AI to take notes. Michael likes to take notes via text, but others may experiment with AI note-taking as well. Jennifer asked about AI note-taking in the past. Sharon mentioned that this was a Senate discussion, particularly around AI use and environmental issues, and we as a committee may want to consider those implications in our own use as well.

2. Approval of the agenda **- Sharon moves to approve the agenda, Ying seconds. Passed. (All Y).**
3. Welcome new members and introductions
   a. Juleen Lam, Public Health; ES at-large
   b. Michael Schmeltz; Public Health; SULO (26-28)
      i. Vacancies
         1. 1 CLASS (26-27)
         2. 1 Lecturer (26-27)
         3. 1 COH (26-28)
         4. 1 CSCI (26-28)

   ASI working on getting a student member as well.

4. **Reports:**
   a. Report of the Chair
      i. Prior CS Chair's annual report 25-26

'Uncomfortable' classroom survey is an outstanding item. What are some things we can do with the survey? Will need to consider this for this AY.

Will take a look at that and other items that may be carried forward this AY.

ii. Shared governance, culture setting, and a proactive orientation for this committee

Link to policies and procedures.

b. Report of the SULO
   i. SULO Work Completed 24/25 and 25/26

Sharon will get this to us by next meeting.

c. Report of the Campus Sustainability Manager; Presidential Appointee

No formal report, but Jennifer expanded upon her role and interests.

5. **Business:**
   a. None at this time
6. **Discussion:**
   a. Other ideas and initiatives for AY 2026/27
      i. Review of Sustainability courses - having a sense of what topics are being discussed (to what extent) and developing a list of topics for inclusion?
         1. Support learning about recent solar installations on campus?

We had a brief discussion/brainstorm:

Asha mentioned doing field trips with faculty (and/or students) to have them engage in practical learning of sustainability in business operations. Thinking maybe early November or late October.

Jennifer mentioned providing more information about our campus gardens and ecological sustainability. Also updating the campus sustainability website to provide more resources for students/faculty/staff.

The AY25/26 Climate change/heat in classrooms - Mark A. in facilities may be a good resource to speak about responsible as well as Risk Management.

Jennifer has partnered with the CSU Chancellor's Office about a potential podcast episode - we could help find a speaker.

Michael will come up with a list including new items and prior AY25-26 items to keep track of through AY26-27.

b. Other priorities discussed during AY 2025/26
    i. Advocacy for sustainability on campus, in departments
        1. Effects of climate Change increased heat on classrooms: Create policy or survey see Chair's report 24-25 above for detailed background.
    ii. Consider: draft resolution on the Environmental Impact of AI. (from last year)
    iii. Supporting the minor
    iv. Continue work on Campus as a Living Lab
    v. Entrepreneurship hub
    vi. From Academic Senate: Review WSCUC standards of accreditation, summary letter, and final report. Let SOs know how your SC could contribute in prep for the special visit.
    vii. Take a look at 2028-34 Academic Calendars and note any concerns or suggestions from your SC. President Sandeen noted that it is possible in the future there may be a common calendar between the SFBRN universities or the whole system. Comments are still encouraged so that feedback can be provided to whichever level develops calendars.
    viii. Review 2-3 older or commonly cited policies to review using the questions in 24-25 FDEC 3 and update as needed.

7. Adjournment **at 3:00pm**